State Library Report May 2016

Activities / Accomplishments

Three North Carolina state documents named notable government documents for 2015 by *Library*

<u>Journal!</u> The May 15, 2016 issue of *Library Journal* highlighted two 2015 publications from the Department of Cultural Resources (now the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources) and one from the Department of Health and Human Services. These publications were nominated by Denise Jones, the State Publications Clearinghouse Liaison here at the State Library of North Carolina.

2015 North Carolina Suicide Prevention Plan. N.C. Injury and Violence Prevention Branch, N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health

Department of Health Behavior. 2015. 198p. illus. maps. OCLC # 908155896. ow.ly/4npXaa

This publication researches ways to assess mental health, communication efforts, community programs, schools, faith-based initiatives, family, etc., along with best practices for preventing suicide.



Blackbeard Reconsidered: Mist's Piracy, Thache's Genealogy. by Baylus C. Brooks & the North Carolina Office of Archives & History. 2015. 46p. illus. maps. OCLC# 929891584. ISBN 9780865264793. \$10.

Using government records from Jamaica along with official documents from the Church of England, historian Brooks brings new light to the mysteries of Blackbeard (Edward Thache, 1680–1718). Was he the notorious pirate written about by Bible-thumping - Jacobites such as Nathaniel Mist, or really a gentleman defending a misunderstood - territory?



The Old North State at War: The North Carolina Civil War Atlas; A Sesquicentennial Project of the Office of Archives and History. by Mark Anderson Moore. North Carolina Dept. of Cultural Resources. 2015. 190p. illus. maps. OCLC # 929885639. ISBN 9780865264717. \$105. ow.ly/4mUFr7

With more than ten years of research and glorious illustrations, this atlas probes the political and demographic route to war while

it assays the legacy of that conflict. Included is a study of General Sherman's march and the difficult and sorrowful devastation left behind.

Historic N.C. bookmobile image selected by the *New York Times' Learning Network* blog. On May 12, 2016 The *New York Times' Learning Network* blog selected a photo of the Rockingham County Public Library bookmobile from 1955 to promote their 7th annual summer reading contest for teens. Not only did they include the image in their post announcing the contest, but will be using it throughout the summer in connection with the contest. See the contest announcement at: http://goo.gl/yrMnKN. The

image may be found in the NC Digital Collections at: http://goo.gl/WyWl5E. The image was discovered through the Digital Public Library of America search portal, as most items in the North Carolina Digital Collections are searchable there. The image is in the Library History collection of the North Carolina Digital Collections.

Honeymooning with Family History

Is there a better way to start a life together than to research the ancestors that came before you? In May, Genealogy Research Librarian Kay Tillotson assisted a couple who were visiting the library while on their honeymoon in tracing a Civil War ancestor.

What's new?

NCpedia incorporated an oral history series called "Listening to History." This collection of more than 100 oral histories were collected by David Cecelski and published over a period of 10 years in the *News & Observer*. All are now available at http://ncpedia.org/listening-to-history. Special thanks go to Systems Integration Librarian Benjamin Murphy for placing the majority of them online!

The spring issue of the <u>Clearinghouse Update newsletter</u> was distributed via email and information was included about how to find the archive of past issues. The UNCW government docs librarian, commented on the latest issue, "This is chock full of interesting "stuff!" I think with my day to day work, I forget about gems like this.... I'm going to "favorite" this link because it could also prove useful for student research too...."

The State Publications Clearinghouse team released a revised edition of the State Publications about African Americans in North Carolina research guide.

http://statelibrary.ncdcr.libguides.com/africanamericansnc

LBPH released their second title to the BARD download site and discovered that the first book had made the **list of top 20 nonfiction downloads** during the month of May.

The VIP (Visually Impaired Program) book discussion group was profiled in the News Observer on Sunday May 29. The article featured input from Marlene Debo, the library coordinator and Kathy Brack, one of the VIP Book Club members.

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) released a second title to the BARD download site and discovered that the first book they recorded had made the list of top 20 nonfiction downloads during the month of May!

The Visually Impaired Program book discussion group was profiled in the News Observer on Sunday May 29 and featured input from Marlene Debo, the library coordinator and Kathy Brack, one of the VIP Book Club members.

Alexander and Johnston Counties joined the NC Cardinal Consortium.

The State Library Commission met May 16 in Raleigh. The members participated in an exercise to lay the groundwork for future strategic planning.

Presentations

Denise Jones and the N.C. State Records Center conducted a joint training for university archives staff and university records officers. Denise discussed the goals and requirements of the State Publications Clearinghouse.

Amanda Johnson conducted two workshops on the Public Library Survey, one in Asheville and the other in Concord. Attendees learned about the upcoming state and federal changes as well as the various ways to access the data. Participants also shared ways their libraries use data with their local leaders.



Amanda is also developing a webpage (LibGuide) for the Public Library Survey. This Guide will contain survey documents, FAQs and materials to train staff in tracking data elements.



Federal Programs

Twenty four (24) public libraries received EZ Edge Technology Grant awards, totaling \$118,649 in funds to improve access to technology for library users.



Fifty one (51) NCLA Leadership Institute applications were received. Twenty four (24) current and future leaders were selected to attend the Institute in September. The goal of the Institute is to increase the impact and contribution that staff make in their communities through libraries across North Carolina.



Scholarships were announced for Library Staff to attend the ARSL annual conference in Fargo, ND in October 2016. Application deadline is June 19, 2016. The application is available online and all applicants will be notified of their status by July 1.



NC Center for the Book

Three winners were chosen for the Letters About Literature, a national reading and writing competition that invites students in grades 4 through 12 to write letters to authors whose work has made a significant

difference in their lives. Approximately 50,000 young readers entered the competition. For North Carolina, this year's winners Catherine Boyette, a fifth grader from Hendersonville Elementary School who wrote to author Rebecca Behrens about her book, When Audrey Met Alice; Wesley Morris, an eighth grader from CW Stanford Middle School in Hillsborough for his letter to Harper Lee, author of To Kill a Mockingbird; Remy Lucien, an eleventh grader from Providence High School in Charlotte who won for his letter to Benjamin Hoff, author of The Te of Piglet. To learn more the NC program, visit the website here: http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/services/nccftb/LAL.html

Staff development

Eve Grunberg, Becky Forbes, Monica Figueroa, and Vicki Brueck completed the eight week Linked Data for Beginners online class by Steven Miller from the School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

State Parks history is going viral! Since the 2016 launch of the NC State Parks Centennial celebration the Government and Heritage Library has been promoting this important milestone through its social media accounts. Several times a week Outreach Team members have been posting content about North Carolina State Parks from NCpedia and the North Carolina State Parks Collection (part of the NC Digital Collections and a project with the State Archives of North Carolina, State Library and N.C. Division of State Parks and Recreation). These posts have proved to be very popular and have gone "viral." They have been shared many times over and have reached several thousand people.

Viral posts include:

- Facebook post on Lake Norman (posted May 9th) reached 13,724 people and shared 24 times.
- Facebook post on Pilot Mountain post (posted May 23, 2016) 5,979 people reached and shared 46 times.

State Parks Digital Collection: http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/home/collections/nc-state-parks
NCpedia: Exploring North Carolina: North Carolina State Parks: http://ncpedia.org/exploring-state-parks



Compliments to staff

LBPH received a large number of complementary notes and letters during May. Perhaps the most noteworthy was one from the family of Michael Shannon. They closed with "You folks make a difference in people's lives."

Steve Case helped a patron from a law firm looking for information about a repealed statute. The patron replied "This is tremendously helpful. I really appreciate the effort. Whatever they're paying you, it isn't enough."

Voicemail 5/12/2016 transcribed by Jennifer Davison 5/13/2016

"Steven Case this is calling you from Durham North Carolina. I got the two articles you sent me and all I said is fantastic! I'm **eternally** grateful, ahh you don't know how much grateful I am. I'm not in charge of the committee writing this up but I am passing it along. My church, White Rock Baptist church is

having its bicentennial this year and Dr. Shepard according to the article in the Herald Sun was one of the founders of the church. Back in 1866 or whatever. So the article from the Herald Sun and the article from the Oxford Public Ledger which he established the Oxford, what was called then the Oxford Colored Orphanage, called the Oxford Central Home now. All of that information I am passing along. And I thank you, thank you very much for sending me the articles. Hope to meet you face to face one of these days. Take care."

Email response from a researcher at a company to Steven Case about Federal Register notice. "You're wonderful! Thank you so very much! I like your analogy about wrestling with the Fed Reg. It certainly does take experience to understand how that publication works."

Denise Jones met with a web development manager at DHHS to talk about DHHS publications and the state government publications digital collection. "Thanks so much for spending time talking with me about what you do. It is amazing. I learned so much today. Thanks for all the links. I really appreciate it."

Thank you (and a hug!) from grateful patron to Geraldine McMillan on only her second day working at the reference desk--the patron thanked Geraldine for her patience with her inexperience on the computer and how kind she was.

"Came down from Burke Co. for a week at the Archives/ library. Everyone here is very helpful & pleasant to work with--Many, Many Thanks."

"From Mesa AZ looking for Tucker family at Randolph Co. NC. What great help Rebecca H. and Beth were for the 6 full days I was researching here!"

"WONDERFUL library & staff. Parking is a nightmare though" -Nashville

GHL Blog

1,544 Sessions, 2,154 Page Views, 1,389 Users

Top Posts:

- 1. Oral history series now included in NCpedia (Listening to History Series), http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4IQ 98 views
- 2. Census Tips: 1810 Census, http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4IJ 95 views
- 3. How to Find the Parents of Orphans, part 3, 2016 http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4GV 90 views

LD Blog

1,230 Sessions, 3,697 Page Views, 1,017 Users

Top Posts:

1. Apply Now: Best Buy Community Grants -386 views

http://statelibrarync.org/ldblog/2016/05/26/best-buy-community-grants-now-accepting-applications/

2. Be Active with Summer Reading 2016 Press Release - 258 views

http://statelibrarync.org/ldblog/2016/05/23/active-summer-reading-2016-press-release/

3. Continuing Education Opportunities: June 2016 - 181 views http://statelibrarync.org/ldblog/2016/05/31/continuing-education-opportunities-june-2016/

Personnel

An offer was made to a candidate to fill the CE Consultant position in Library Development. Four open positions were advertised: Manager of the Cardinal Program in LD, The Head of Content and Information Delivery and a Graphic Designer in GHL, and an Outreach Coordinator in LBPH.